Bond St. 6,

1815

Dear Sir

I am quite ashamed to

find two letters from me and

a copy of your picture, as yet

unacknowledged — however I hasten

to thank you for both & to

say how much I have been

interested with your story —

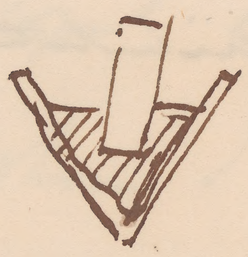
I should be very glad to be made the centre of communication for observations on shooting stars especially under the auspices of the B. A. for if any plan could be organized for that purpose. I expect since the last meeting (from what I then said) many persons in different quarters have commenced sending to me notices of meteors & the substance of which I take

observe that it had no pretensions to originality & was I anticipated only a popular summary. I therefore merely took the statements of Quetelet & others as I found them and assumed the limits of the atmosphere to be as commonly stated about 50 miles. I do not know how the report got into the Nautical Magazine nor have I seen it & so cannot judge of its accuracy. By your brief abstract it

in Phillips's hands & will
appear in the Report of the
Assoc.n I am engaged to
read a Lecture at the
Royal Institn on the 7th of April
when I shall endeavour
also the corrections I can
reasonably obtain, &
especially the suggestions you
have made. My only object
was to give a general view
of the various theories, but
at the same time to keep
in view the probable connexion
between the different
Phenomena which may be
due to different forms of
Cosmical matter circulating
through Space.

Just at present I am
much engaged with quite another
subject — a new case of
interference — of which Stokes
of Cambridge has made out an
elaborate theory, developing
the Airy's of the bands formed

by interception obs^ns Brewster & which the latter so much controverted. In this case the primary expt. is very simple viz. a liquid film having a flat plate inserted thus:



When the film is seen covered with dark bands. Some of the details however are very curious.

I remain
Very sincerely Yours
D Powell

lay before the next meeting. few of them however contain anything very precise.

I do not know what is Lardner's authority for saying in general that all meteors shine by their own light. But I suppose the usual appearance may be considered such as to impress the eye with the notion of their doing so, while neither the idea of their shining by reflexion would be an obvious one, nor perhaps would it be readily supposed that a body very near us could shew such

billiancy by more reflexion.
I suppose we must endeavour
to classify the appearances
into such as may be conceived
to arise from reflexion &
those which are self luminous -
but I imagine it would be
difficult to do so on any very
certain grounds. The simplicity
of the hypothesis would seem to
testify the light is polarized.
With regard to my lectures
at the B. Assoc. I must

DSI

234. Powell, Baden (1796-1860)

Oxford
March. 3. 1830

My dear Sir

I take the liberty of enclosing a certificate in favor of our friend Mr Foxwell of Wm. St. who is desirous of becoming a fellow of the R. S. in the hope that it may obtain your sanction; & that if so you will have the kindness to allow it to be read at the meeting tomorrow evening - I

Davies Gilbert Esqr P.R.S.

(Enclosed
Paderborn)

R. Powell
Baden Powell
1830
June 3

(1796-1860)
Fellow of R.S. 1824.
Noted for researches on optics and radiation.

a1x16.

have had the pleasure of
seeing you to satisfy in your
behalf. - I remain

Very sincerely yours

Baden Powell

DSI

London May 29
1850

My dear Sir

Before I leave town
(which I do today for Cornwall)
I am anxious to communicate
with you on subject on the same
Committee of the B. Assoc.
for observations of atmospheric

Chairman, I respectfully beg leave
to mention that Mr.
Pirt & myself have been
drawing up something by
way of the foundation
of a Report, which it is
desirable should be
presented to the meeting
in August next. What
we have put together
relates only to Luminous
Meteors - & this I venture
hoping that you will
add any suggestions which
may occur to you &
return the paper to me -
I will then endeavour
to get similar aid from
other members of the

Committee Meeting to
Keep Meeting of the
Whole Body which may
Have Something like
Tangible matter to
Bring Upon the Question.

Yours truly

B Powell

DSI

POWELL, BADEN. (1796-1860). English Scientist who did research in radiation. ALS 1½ pp. 8vo. Oxford 1830. Fine letter speaking of the Royal Society. $5.00

KRONOVET-60

47. COTTON, JOSIAH. American Clergyman and son of John Cotton. DS 1p. folio 1746.

48. DANIELS, JOSEPHUS. Sec. Navy "Wilson". ALS 1 full p. 4to. Dep't. Interior, Wash. I
Scarce as such.

—— A.L.S. (B. Powell), London May 29 1850, to the same, 4 pages 8vo., 15*s*

Referring to his report on meteors to the British Association. . . . 'this I enclose hoping that you will add any suggestions or corrections which may occur to you.' . . .

LONDON SOTHERAN

52

Università di Bologna, Li 4 febbraio 1897, to 'Egregio Prof. [Silvanus P.] Thompson,' 2 pa
8vo., £1, 15*s*

This letter seems to have been in answer to an enquiry as regards GUGLIELMO MARCONI ... 'Egli non fu